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DATE: April 24, 2006

TO: Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force

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SUBJECT: Solid and Hazardous Waste Chapter

SUMMARY:

Staff is in the process of developing a draft Solid and Hazardous Waste Chapter for the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of this item is to update the Task Force on progress and to seek input on chapter goals and performance outcomes.

BACKGROUND:

Staff has engaged the following activities and efforts in developing the Solid and Hazardous Waste Chapter:

- **Preliminary Draft Solid and Hazardous Waste Chapter** – Staff last reported to the RCP Task force regarding this chapter on August 22, 2005 at which time a preliminary draft was approved for public review. Subsequent to this approval, the Solid Waste Task Force requested that staff rework significant portions of the “Existing Conditions” section due to internal inconsistencies and potentially misleading information.
- **Solid Waste Task Force** – The Solid Waste Task Force has been actively involved in providing input into the development of the chapter. Specifically, during these last couple of months, the Task Force helped draft and re-work the *Existing Conditions* of the Chapter. Currently, efforts are being guided into finalizing the overall/general Chapter Outline with the new *Existing Conditions* outline.
- **Current Research** – Current research has been focused on issues affecting the region, including waste generation, waste diversion and new/emerging technologies. Preliminary research on the existing conditions has been focused on the following (within the SCAG region):
 - **Existing Facilities** - to include landfills, transfer stations, materials recovery facilities and waste-to-energy facilities.
 - **Existing Generation** – to include Solid Waste, Electronic Waste and Household Hazardous Waste.
 - **Existing Diversion**
 - **Existing Disposal**
 - **Emerging Technologies** – Conversion Technologies.
- Prepared general revisions to the existing preliminary draft to include the update existing conditions section.

Outcomes and Indicators

Consistent with the overall approach for the RCP, staff is seeking to develop overarching goals and performance outcomes for the chapter. These performance outcomes will in turn, guide our work in

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finalizing the action plan within the chapter, and bringing forward a full draft for review. We anticipate having a full draft chapter in 6-8 months.

Staff is seeking input and discussion at this time on potential performance outcomes for the chapter. As the Task Force is aware, performance outcomes will establish a quantifiable baseline of expectation for the region going forward. For the Solid and Hazardous Waste Chapter, outcomes should be established in the following areas:

- Waste Generation
- Waste Diversion
- Conversion Technologies Implementation
- Other

Current Solid and Hazardous Waste Policies

SCAG has established regional policies regarding solid waste, including hazardous waste. These policies are intended to be used as a guide for jurisdictions when establishing their own solid and hazardous waste management policies and programs. The guiding policy for this chapter is to "*Promote Sustainability for Future Generations.*" The Regional Council, through its 2004 Growth Vision, recognizes that management of solid waste and hazardous waste must be sustainable in order to efficiently manage natural resources and in order to protect the environment today and in the future. The overarching solid waste policy is to:

- Develop strategies to accommodate growth that use resources efficiently, reduce pollution and waste generation, and return waste stream materials to beneficial use. (Policy Reference: 72).

SCAG Solid Waste Policies

SCAG has established various policies designed to implement the overarching solid waste policy. These are listed below along with changes recommended by the Solid Waste Task Force.

- *Encourage local jurisdictions to continue to adopt and implement programs that comply with state solid waste diversion rate mandates and strive to exceed minimum state waste reduction mandates. (Policy Reference 187)*
- *Support the California Integrated Waste Management Board in its efforts to work with jurisdictions in the SCAG region to implement solid waste diversion mandates that are enacted by the legislature with an emphasis on programmatic, rather than mathematical compliance. (Policy Reference: 186)*
- *Encourage the California Integrated Waste Management Board and the Legislature to pursue policy measures that will accelerate the commercialization and permitting of beneficial solid waste conversion technologies.*
- *Encourage SCAG member agencies to collaborate, cooperate, share information, and develop regional programs to minimize future environmental and fiscal impacts related to the management of solid waste.*

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- *SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee shall maintain ongoing coordination with the California Integrated Waste Management Board to ensure a coordinated approach that reflects statewide policy direction and initiatives such as "Zero Waste California". (Policy Reference: 188)*

SCAG Hazardous Waste Policies

SCAG has adopted a resolution and several policies pertaining to the management, transport and disposal of hazardous waste. The Regional Council's goal in developing these policies is to minimize the use of substances classified as hazardous and to develop programs whereby jurisdictions attempt to dispose/manage the hazardous waste that is produced within their boundaries.

- *Support the use of the best available technology including monitoring, air, and water impacts for locating any nuclear waste facility. (Policy Reference: 148)*
- *Encourage every county in the SCAG region to accept responsibility for the management of hazardous wastes in the region in an amount proportional to the hazardous wastes generated within the county. (Policy Reference: 133)*
- *Jurisdictions should work together to develop a common siting criteria for hazardous waste facilities to ensure a coordinated regional approach*
- *Encourage federal, state and local efforts to educate businesses on the use of less dangerous alternatives than hazardous materials. (Policy Reference: 170)*
- *Encourage the U.S. Department of Transportation and the California Highway Patrol to continue to enforce existing regulations governing goods movement and hazardous waste transportation. (Policy Reference 169)*

RCP Chapter General Outline

- I. Introduction
 - II. Existing Setting and Conditions
 - III. Existing Plans and Policies
 - IV. Key Issues:
 - a) Analysis of Implications of Regional Growth Vision
 - V. Action Plan
 - a) Recommended Actions for External Parties
 - b) Policy Objectives
 - c) Legislative Strategy
 - d) Mitigation Strategy
 - VI. Performance Outcomes and Indicators
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I. INTRODUCTION

- Brief synopsis of the key issues of solid and hazardous waste management in the SCAG region
- Brief description of what will be presented in the chapter

II. EXISTING SETTING AND CONDITIONS

- 1) **Planning Elements under Existing State Law.** This Section will describe the existing regulatory setting for the state and the SCAG region.
 - a) California Integrated Waste Management Act
 - i) Description
 - b) Planning Elements Under California Integrated Waste Management Act
 - ii) County Wide Integrated Waste Management Plan
 - (1) Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE)
 - (2) A Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE)
 - (3) Siting Element
 - (4) A Non-disposal Facility Element (NDFE)
 - iii) SCAG's Sub-regional Solid Waste Planning
 - (1) Summary of key points of subregional plans
- 2) **Growth and facilities (capacity).** This section will describe the capacity of existing and planned solid waste facilities, compared with projected demand associated with population growth.
 - a) Existing Facilities
 - i) Landfills in the SCAG Region
 - (1) Landfill Capacity
 - a) Summary Table: Solid Waste Facilities in the SCAG Region

Present all landfills in SCAG region per county, permitted max. Disposal per day, total estimated permitted capacity, total estimated capacity used (%), remaining capacity (%), closure date.

 - Paragraph highlighting facts from the table.
 - ii) Transfer Stations

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- (a) Summary Table : Transfer Stations in the SCAG Region. To include name of facility, location and permitted maximum disposal per day.
 - iii) Materials Recovery Facilities
 - (1) Materials Recovery
 - (a) Definition
 - (b) Different Technologies
 - (c) Pros/Cons of Technologies
 - (d) Summary Table: Materials Recovery Facilities in the SCAG Region. To include name of facility, location and permitted throughput.
 - iv) Waste to Energy Facilities
 - (1) Waste-to-Energy
 - (a) Definition
 - (b) Different Technologies
 - (c) Pros/Cons of Technologies
 - (d) Summary Table: Waste to Energy Facilities in the SCAG Region. To include name of facility, location and permitted throughput.
 - b) Proposed Facilities
 - i) Landfills
 - (1) Descriptive introduction of what is planned
 - ii) Transfer Stations
 - (1) Descriptive introduction of what is planned
 - iii) Materials Recovery Facilities
 - (1) Descriptive introduction of what is planned
 - iv) Waste to Energy Facilities
 - (1) Descriptive introduction of what is planned
 - v) Summary Table: Planned Facilities in the SCAG Region. To include name of new facility (landfill, transfer station, MRF and Waste to Energy), location, estimated permitted daily disposal per day and total estimated permitted capacity.
 - 3) **Performance Objectives and Evaluation.** This section will evaluate existing generation, diversion and disposal, and analyze performance objectives.
 - a) Generation. Discussion of what is generated
 - i) Solid Waste
 - ii) Electronic Waste
 - iii) Household Hazardous Waste
 - iv) Summary of Table: To include what is generated by County and by material, comparison of five-year increments (?)
 - b) Diversion. Discussion of diversion performance in the region.
 - i) Intro paragraph on diversion
 - (1) Discussion of what is diverted in the SCAG Region
 - c) Disposal. Discussion of disposal performance in the region.
 - i) Intro paragraph on disposal

(1) Discussion of what is disposed of in the SCAG region.

d) Summary Table: SCAG's region Rate of Disposal into/out of landfills

Summary Table: to include summary of what is generated vs. what is diverted and disposed (estimated diversion, total disposal), per county, compared by five-year increments?

e) Environmental Repercussions

- i) Land use
- ii) Energy
- iii) Water Resources
- iv) Air Resources

- 4) **Intergovernmental relations.** This section will describe current and emerging issues between various levels of governments. Specifically, legislation, state mandates, regulations, and legislative and jurisdictional issues including railroad, rule making, etc.
- 5) **Transportation and transfer of solid and household hazardous waste.** This section ties into the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Specifically, this section will discuss efficiency and safety, and will analyze the relationship between solid waste management practices and transportation systems.
- 6) **Urban Form.** This section will address future urban growth and its implication on solid and household hazardous waste production/increase. Specifically, this section will tackle waste disposal and diversion in light of the regions anticipated growth distribution.
- 7) **New and emerging technologies**
- a) Technologies/Alternatives. Discussion of potential and issues regarding conversion technologies.
 - i) Conversion Technologies
 - (1) Definition
 - (2) Different Technologies
 - (a) Thermochemical Conversion
 - (i) Gasification
 - (ii) Pyrolysis
 - (b) Biochemical Conversion
 - (i) Anaerobic Digestion
 - (ii) Aerobic Digestion
 - (iii) Fermentation
 - (3) Potential byproducts/benefits of Conversion Technologies
 - b) Legislative Update

III. EXISTING PLAN AND POLICIES

1) Introduction paragraph

2) Existing Plans

- a) Present Previous Plans
 - i) 1994 Southern California Hazardous Waste Management Plan
 - ii) 1996 Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide
 - iii) 2004 RTP/RCP Program EIR
 - iv) County Plans
 - v) Subregional Plans

2) Existing Policies

- a) SCAG's Solid Waste Policies
 - i) Overarching Solid Waste Goal
 - ii) SCAG's policies to implement overarching goal
- b) SCAG's Hazardous Waste Policies
 - i) Overarching Solid Waste Goal
 - ii) SCAG's policies to implement overarching goal

IV. KEY ISSUES

- 1) **Introduction paragraph**
- 2) **Key Issues**
 - a) Present key issue in a descriptive paragraph
 - b) Present Recommended Strategies to address the issue
- 3) **Analysis of Implications of Regional Growth Vision**
 - a) Paragraph/descriptive format

V. ACTION PLAN

- 1) **Introduction paragraph**
- 2) **Policy Objectives**
- 3) **Recommended Actions**
 - a) Waste Prevention and Source Reduction
 - i) Actions
 - b) Waste Diversion
 - i) Conversion Technologies
 - (1) Actions
 - ii) Recycling
 - (1) Actions
 - iii) Composting
 - (1) Actions
 - iv) Landfills
 - (1) Actions
 - c) Actions from the Southern California Hazardous Waste Management Plan, July 1994
 - d) Hazardous Waste Reduction
- 4) **Legislation Strategy**
- 5) **Mitigation Strategy**

VI. PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES AND INDICATORS

- 1) Introduction paragraph
- 2) Integration of Solid and Hazardous Waste with other regional issues

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